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File: USPT

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TITLE: Geographic based communications service

Brief Summary Text (8):

A further example of inefficiencies for the traveler concerns travel arrangements themselves. After arriving at an airport, the traveler proceeds to a car rental desk or to some other transportation location. The traveler typically waits in line while the car rental agency inquires about automobile preference, driver's license, method of payment, type of insurance required, etc. Having experienced some delay, the traveler is now on his way to a business location or hotel. Upon arriving at a hotel check-in/registration desk, the traveler often experiences further delay waiting in line and providing the check-in clerk with routine information such as address, length of stay, type of room desired, method of payment, etc. In addition, the traveler may need to call back to his office to check for voice-mail messages, thereby incurring further delays. While accessing databases for information about the traveler, where his preferences and requirements may reduce such delays, a common characteristic is that the pending arrival or presence of the traveler is not known to those who may act in advance. Further, conventional systems cannot generally locate a mobile user of a portable computing device and take advantage of that information to reduce the time required to complete routine activities or to provide the traveler options that may enhance the traveler's productivity.

Detailed Description Text (72):

The system may include multiple geographic based communication services from different providers. For example, one geographic based communication service may be referred to as a WAYPORT network (WAYPORT is a Registered Trademark of Wayport, Inc. of Austin, Tex.). A WAYPORT network may be compatible with other types of similar geographic-based networks maintained by other companies. For example, if WAYPORT networks are installed in the Austin-Bergstrom International airport and similar `XYZ` networks are installed in a hotel in downtown Austin, a MU that has subscribed to WAYPORT networks may be able to use the services offered at the downtown hotel by XYZ. More specifically, a MU that has registered with a WAYPORT network (e.g., has entered demographic data and agreed to pay transaction costs) may not need to register with XYZ. The MU may use other network providers (e.g., XYZ networks) and still only be billed from one company (e.g., the provider of the WAYPORT network with which the MU is registered). This may be accomplished through agreements established between different network providers.

Detailed Description Text (102):

In step 740, the service provider, through the AP, optionally notifies the MU of the print job destination (e.g., the selected printing device) and/or confirmation of the completion of the print job. In one embodiment, a confirmation of completion of the print job is sent to the PCD from the service provider. If the PCD is no longer connected to the AP, the AP may store the printing confirmation for a period of time before deleting it. If the MU did not specify a print location, the service provider may send detailed information describing the location of the printing device. In addition, the service provider may send information regarding the fees

that are due upon pickup or, alternatively, the fees that were charged to the MU account.

Detailed Description Text (105):

In step 820 the PCD 110 transmits rental car information to the AP 120. In a preferred embodiment the MU has a preferred rental company, car type, and insurance preferences stored in the database of user information 325B and/or the service provider (the rental car agency). This may allow the MU to simply transmit (using the PCD) the identification of the MU as well as location and duration of the rental period to the AP 120. For example, the information stored in the service provider's memory for a particular MU may indicate that the MU typically requests a four-door intermediate-size car. Referencing this information, the service provider may automatically reserve a similar vehicle, unless otherwise instructed by the MU.

Detailed Description Text (174):

In step 1320 the billing information from all service providers 140 may be stored, such as in the database of user information 325. The MU may pay only one bill over a given period of time (e.g. a month) to the network system operator and the system operator owner may pay the charges to individual service providers 140. Alternatively, each service provider may be directly paid by the MU, either through a credit card or any other method of payment, at the time services are rendered.

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